

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 13, 2004, together with the references included therein, has been carefully reviewed. This Office Action is a Final Rejection.

Summary of the Office Action

1. Claim 47 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 because the Office Action alleges that the term "such as" renders the claim indefinite.

2. Claims 67-69, 99 stand rejected 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by English, et al (5335137).

3. Claims 59, 60, 63-66 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over English in view of Dalal (4642727)

4. Claims 80-81 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over English in view of Pritchard (4958255)

5. Claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 12, 14, 17, 18, 19, 25, 42, 43, 44, 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Allison et al (5511840) in view of Ker (5901022).

6. Claims 50-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Allison et al in view of Gosnell (3587098).

7. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10-18, 27, 42-44, 46-49, 54, 70-73, 78, 79, 83, 84, 86, 87, 93-95, 97, 98 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over English et al in view of Ker.

8. Claims 20-23, 27-33, 55, 75-77, 96 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over English in view of Ker and further in view of Banner.

9. Claims 8,45,85 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over English in view of Ker and further in view of Pritchard, English and Ker.

10. Claims 34-41,88-90 stand allowed.

Claim 47 has been canceled. Accordingly, no further comments will be directed to these portions of the Office Action.

Response to Office Action

The independent claims that stand rejected have been canceled, and the dependent claims have been amended to depend on allowed independent claims. Accordingly, it is believed that all of the amendments proposed by this response render the claims clearly allowable.

With regard to Claim 91, this claim has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 92. Claim 92 was not discussed in the Office Action, but, based on the allowance of Claim 88, it is believed that the proposed Claim 91 should be allowable. In a telephone discussion with the Examiner on September 13, 2004, the Examiner told the undersigned that he would call the undersigned if there is any problem allowing Claim 91, or withdraw the Final nature of the Office Action and issue another Office Action. However, because this case has been pending for such a great

length of time, in order to expedite this case, the undersigned would much prefer a telephone call so any issue with regard to Claim 91 can be worked out and an allowance obtained on this application as soon as possible. Accordingly, it is believed that this response should be entered as placing the case in condition for allowance.

1. Claim 47 has been canceled. Accordingly, no further comments will be directed to this rejection.

2. Claims 67-69 and 99 have been canceled. Accordingly, no comments will be directed to this rejection.

3. Claims 59, 60, 63-66 have been canceled. Accordingly, no comments will be directed to this rejection.

4. Claims 80 and 81 have been canceled. Accordingly, no comments will be directed to this rejection.

5. Claims 1, 17, 18, 19, 25, 42, 43, 44, 46 have been canceled and no comments will be directed to these claims. Also, Claims 2, 6, 9, 12, 14, 50 and 51 have been amended to depend on allowed Claim 88 and thus should also be allowed as depending on an allowed claim and adding further limitations thereto. Accordingly, no further comments will be directed to these claims.

6. With regard to Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10-18, 27, 42-44, 46-49, 54, 70-73, 78, 79, 83, 84, 86, 87, 93-95, 97, 98, it is noted that Claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 27, 73, 83, 84, 86, 87 have been amended to depend on allowed Claim 88, and

and Claims 1, 11, 17, 18, 42-44, 46-49, 54, 70-72, 78, 79, 83, 84, 93-94, 97, 98 have been canceled. Accordingly, no comments will be directed to any of these claims.

7. With regard to Claims 20-23, 27-33, 55, 75-77, 96, it is noted that Claims 20-23, 27-33, 55 have been amended to depend from allowed Claim 88 and Claims 75-77 and 96 have been canceled. Accordingly, no comments will be directed to any of these claims.

8. With regard to 8, 45, 85, it is noted that Claim 8 has been amended to depend from allowed Claim 88, and Claims 45 and 85 have been canceled. Accordingly, no comments will be directed to any of these claims.

Thus, in view of the above amendments, only allowed claims and claims dependent therefrom remain in this application.

Therefore, the claims as now submitted should be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, review and allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Terry M. Gernstein

1015 Salt Meadow Lane
McLean, VA 22101
(703) 790-5945
September 13, 2004